

Application Serial No. 09/966,902
Reply to August 11, 2005 Office Action

Attorney Docket No. 1232-4775

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 17, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29 as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing Of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): An information processing system comprising a transmitting apparatus for transmitting news information that contains text, and a receiving apparatus communicably connected to said transmitting apparatus for receiving the news information, wherein said receiving apparatus includes:

voice output means for outputting the text content of the received news information as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information; and

display means for displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of said audible voice,

wherein the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by voice.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A receiving apparatus, which is communicably connected to a transmitting apparatus that transmits news information that contains text, for receiving the news information from said transmitting apparatus, comprising:

voice output means for outputting the text content of the received news information as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information; and

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display means for displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of said audible voice,
wherein the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by voice.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said voice output means outputs the text content of the received news information as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every genre of the news information.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said receiving apparatus receives the news information from said transmitting apparatus periodically;

said receiving apparatus further including storage means for storing the received news information;

wherein only fresh news information from among the received news information is stored in said storage means.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

means for determining, whenever content of the news information is output by said voice output means, whether fresh news information has been stored in said storage means; and

means for determining degree of importance of content of the fresh news information if it is determined that the fresh news information has been stored;

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wherein said voice output means outputs text content of the fresh news information as an audible voice preferentially if the degree of importance of the content of the fresh news information is higher than that of the content of other news information.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the order is capable of being set by a user.

Claim 7 (currently amended): An information processing method comprising:

a step of transmitting news information that contains text via a communication path;

a step of receiving the news information;

a voice output step of outputting the text content of the received news information as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information; and

a display step of displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of said audible voice,

wherein the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by voice.

Claim 8 (currently amended): An information processing method comprising:

a step of receiving, via a communication path, news information that contains text from a transmitting apparatus that transmits the news information;

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a voice output step of outputting the text content of the received news information as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information; and

a display step of displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of said audible voice,

wherein the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by voice.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A computer readable medium encoded with a computer readable program for causing a computer to function as the following means, wherein said computer, which is communicably connected to a transmitting apparatus that transmits news information that contains text, receives the news information from said transmitting apparatus:

voice output means for outputting the text content of the received news information as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information; and

display means for displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of said audible voice,

wherein the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by voice.

Claim 10 (currently amended): An information processing system having a first communication apparatus for transmitting news information that contains text, and a second communication apparatus communicably connected to said first communication apparatus for

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receiving the news information from said first communication apparatus, wherein said second communication apparatus includes:

voice output means for outputting the text content of the received news information as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information;

display means for displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of said audible voice; and

acceptance means for accepting a designation of type of the news information by voice;

wherein said voice output means outputs the text content of the news information, which belongs to the designated type, as an audible voice preferentially;

wherein the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by voice.

Claim 11 (currently amended): An information processing system having a first communication apparatus for transmitting news information that contains text, and a second communication apparatus communicably connected to said first communication apparatus for receiving the news information from said first communication apparatus, wherein said second communication apparatus includes:

voice output means for outputting the text content of the received news information as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information;

display means for displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of said audible voice;

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acceptance means for accepting a designation of type of the news information by voice; and

notification means for notifying said first communication apparatus of the type of news information designated;

wherein said first communication apparatus transmits the news information, which belongs to the designated type of which it has been notified by said second communication apparatus, to said second communication apparatus preferentially;

wherein the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by voice.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A communication apparatus, which is communicably connected to a transmitting apparatus that transmits news information that contains text, for receiving the news information from said transmitting apparatus, comprising:

voice output means for outputting the text content of the received news information as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information;

display means for displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of said audible voice;

acceptance means for accepting a designation of type of the news information by voice; and

notification means for notifying said first communication apparatus of the type of news information designated;

wherein said voice output means outputs the text content of the news information, which belongs to the designated type, as an audible voice preferentially;

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wherein the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by voice.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising storage means in which the received news information is stored upon being classified by type.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said voice output means outputs the text content of the news information, which has been stored in said storage means, as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every type thereof.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The apparatus according to claim 14, further comprises means for determining, whenever content of the news information is output by said voice output means, whether the designation of the type of news information has been made;

wherein said voice output means outputs the text content of the news information, which belongs to the type designated, as an audible voice preferentially if the designation has been made.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the order is capable of being set by a user.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A communication apparatus, which is communicably connected to a transmitting apparatus that transmits news information that contains text, for receiving the news information from said transmitting apparatus, comprising:

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voice output means for outputting the text content of the received news information as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information;

display means for displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of said audible voice;

acceptance means for accepting a designation of type of said news information by voice; and

notification means for notifying said communication apparatus of the type of news information designated,

wherein the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by voice.

Claim 18-21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (previously presented): The system according to claim 12, wherein said communication apparatus has means for creating a document, which is described by operation description language, that defines processing executed by said display means and said acceptance means, said document incorporating the received news information.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The system according to claim 17, wherein said communication has means for creating a document, which is described by operation description language, that defines processing executed by said display means and said acceptance means, said document incorporating the received news information.

Claim 24 (currently amended): An information processing method comprising:

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a step of transmitting news information that contains text via a communication path;

a voice output step of outputting the text content of the received news information as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information;

a display step of displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of said audible voice; and

an acceptance step of accepting a designation of type of the news information by voice;

wherein the text content of the news information that belongs to the designated type is output as an audible voice preferentially at said voice output step;

wherein the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by voice.

Claim 25 (currently amended): An information processing method comprising:

a transmitting step of transmitting news information that contains text via a communication path;

a voice output step of outputting the text content of the received news information as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information;

a display step of displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of said audible voice;

a step of accepting a designation of type of said news information by voice; and

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a notification step of notifying the source of transmission of the news information of the type of news information designated;

wherein the news information that belongs to the type designated in said notification step is transmitted preferentially at said transmitting step;

wherein the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by voice.

Claim 26 (currently amended): An information processing method comprising:

a step of receiving news information that contains text, via a communication path, from a transmitting apparatus that transmits the news information;

a voice output step of outputting the text content of the received news information as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information; and

a display step of displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of the voice;

an acceptance step of accepting a designation of type of said news information by voice; and

wherein the text content of the news information that belongs to the designated type is output as an audible voice preferentially at said voice output step,

wherein the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by voice.

Claim 27 (currently amended): An information processing method comprising:

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a step of receiving news information that contains text, via a communication path, from a transmitting apparatus that transmits the news information;

a voice output step of outputting the text content of the received news information as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information;

a display step of displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual, in conformity with the output of the voice;

an acceptance step of accepting a designation of type of said news information by voice; and

a step of notifying the transmitting apparatus of the type of news information designated,

wherein the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by voice.

Claim 28 (currently amended): A computer readable medium encoded with a computer readable program for causing a computer to function as the following means, wherein said computer, which is communicably connected to a transmitting apparatus that transmits news information that contains text, receives the news information from said transmitting apparatus:

voice output means for outputting the text content of the received news information as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information based upon the content of the news information;

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display means for displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual,
in conformity with the output of the voice; and

acceptance means for accepting a designation of type of the news information by
voice;

wherein said voice output means outputs the text content of the news information,
which belongs to the designated type, as an audible voice preferentially,

wherein the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by
voice.

Claim 29 (currently amended): A computer readable medium encoded with
a computer readable program for causing a computer to function as the following means,
wherein said computer, which is communicably connected to a transmitting apparatus that
transmits news information that contains text, receives the news information from said
transmitting apparatus:

voice output means for outputting the text content of the received news
information as an audible voice in an order predetermined for every genre of news information
based upon the content of the news information;

display means for displaying an animation, which imitates a speaking individual,
in conformity with the output of the voice;

acceptance means for accepting a designation of type of said news information by
voice; and

means for notifying the transmitting apparatus of the type of news information
designated,

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wherein the genre is capable of being accepted by a designation from a user by
voice.